GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3087
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2004
IMPROVING INFRASTRUCTURAL FACILITIES IN PORTS
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy;Panda Shri Prabodh

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any plan for improving infrastructural facilities in ports in the country to that of international standard;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (c) Development of ports in the country, which includes improvements in infrastructural facilities is an ongoing process to cope with the demands of maritime trade. The plans for development of major ports are included in the Five-Year Plans of the Government for the Port Sector. During the Tenth Five-Year Plan (2002-2007), an amount of Rs.4531.29 crores has been allocated for development of major ports. Out of this, Rs.450.00 crores are to be provided as budgetary support from the Government and Rs.4081.29 crores are to be raised by the ports concerned through their own internal and extra budgetary resources. In addition, an investment of about Rs.11257.00 crores by the private sector is also envisaged in major ports during the Tenth Plan period.

The focus in the major ports during the Tenth Five Year-Plan period is, inter-alia, on improving productivity through technological upgradation, provision of cost effective services and enhancement of service quality to levels which are globally comparable. This is planned to be achieved through upgradation/conversion of existing conventional berths to suit emerging requirements; construction of new berths; upgradation of cargo handling equipment and maintenance procedures; redesigning and upgradation of internal road network and circulation systems where required; upgradation of storage facilities and other port infrastructure coupled with commercial accounting practices, improved equipment and labour productivity, optimization of work force, training, optimal use of information technology etc.